PLACE
STAMP
HERE

THIS BUILDING, WHICH WAS FORMERLY OCCUPIED BY THE BAXTER SPRINGS BANK WHERE THE ROBBERY WAS HELD, IS NOW THE LOCATION OF MURPHEY'S RESTAURANT.

1101 MILITARY AVENUE — BAXTER SPRINGS, KANSAS

RT66-795

Jesse James Robbed The Bank On This Site In May Of 1876

Jesse James and an accomplice by the name of Cole robbed the Baxter Springs Bank here in May of 1876. This restaurant is in the original building where the robbery was held and one can see the bricked up windows on the north as shown in this picture. The robbery netted James $2,900.

On this day in 1876, Jesse James and his accomplice rode into town about noon and tied their horses to a corn crib behind the bank. James, followed by Cole walked into the bank and James asked the cashier, H. R. Crowell, to change a $5 bill. When he turned he was covered by their guns and given a sack in which he stuffed the money.

After they had looted the bank they forced Crowell to go with them to their horses. They stood him up by the crib covering him with their guns and taunted him to call for help.

As they made a run for the "nation" to the south, they boastingly yelled that they had held up the bank and for citizens to catch them. A posse was organized immediately and a hot pursuit followed.

About seven miles south of Baxter Springs the robbers stopped at a little blacksmith shop where they demanded that their horses be shod. The bandits knew they were pursued and placed themselves in position to cover the pursuing citizens. When the posse saw that they were riding into certain death they stopped and were disarmed by James and Cole who broke their guns on rocks. The posse then was ordered to return to town, which they did.

Not a shot was fired during the entire robbery and pursuit and not a person was injured.